

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Reorganization of Railways and Industries, Manchuria

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1. At the end of November the Northeast Military Commission ordered all Manchurian railways placed under military control beginning 1 December. Movement of trains within the area, except for instructions given by the military representatives detailed to the various stations, was placed under the uniform command of the recently-established Northeast Railway Command. The defenses of the railway stations have already been reinforced, and the daily life of railway employees has been subjected to increased control.
2. On 3 December a group of 12 persons, including LIU Shao-chi, CHEN Yua and the Minister of Railways, TENG Tai-yuan, with some Soviet advisers and experts, came to Mukden from Peiping by train. This group was believed to have come for a meeting on heavy industries in the Northeast Military Region.
3. On 5 December more than 450 skilled Soviet workers arrived at Mukden by train from Chita and Hailar. According to the reception committee, most of them were arsenal workers. A small number were to remain in Mukden, but the rest were to be sent to arsenals in various parts of China.
4. During the Japanese occupation of Mukden, the Mukden Automobile Factory produced automobiles. After V-J Day, most of the important machines in the plant were dismantled and shipped to the USSR. Despite Chinese Communist efforts to restore the plant, it has been unable to produce any automobiles and has been making automobile parts and doing repair work. By the end of November, however, the plant was moved to Lanchow. It was reported that the Soviet Union would lend assistance in establishing a well-equipped automobile manufacturing plant in Lanchow.¹

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1. ☐ Comment. It is believed the Soviets will help establish the plant to maintain dependable overland communications between China and the USSR.

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